

Therefore, please add the following additional new claims to be acted upon by the Examiner:

B1
13. (New) A device for manufacturing an item made of plastic material, particularly caps for closing containers, by means of molding units arranged on a carousel having a structure rotating about a vertical axis and comprising an upper male mold part and a lower female mold part which are aligned along a second vertical axis which is parallel to the rotation axis of the carousel, said upper male mold part comprising a cylindrical jacket which is rigidly coupled to the structure of the rotating carousel and is coaxial to the sliding axis of said lower female mold part, a sleeve which is guided on said jacket and a forming punch with an outer forming surface, said forming punch being is guided in said jacket and comprises a tubular stem having an upper portion and a lower portion, said lower portion enclosing a chamber and having an outer surface which is shaped so as to produce the internal molding of said item, said lower portion being provided with ports which lead outside and are connected to a compressed air supply, said tubular stem internally accomodating a tube which forms, together with said tubular stem, a cylindrical interspace which is connected to said chamber, a cylindrical element fixed to said upper portion of said tubular stem and having a seat coaxial to said tubular stem, a body accomodated in said seat and coupled to said upper portion of said tubular stem, a slender tube arranged internally along said tube and forming, together with said tube, a tubular channel which is connected to said chamber, said slender tube and said tube each having an upper end hermetically inserted in said body, holes formed in said body and in said cylindrical element for connecting said cylindrical interspace and said tubular channel to a delivery and a return of a coolant fluid and for connecting said slender tube to said compressed air supply so as to convey compressed air through said ports between the outer forming surface of said forming

punch and the manufactured item, so as to cause the separation of said item from said portion.

Sub C5

~~14. (New) A device according to claim 13 wherein said forming punch comprises a bell-shaped portion, a plate centered to said bell-shaped portion and having a tubular tang centrally projecting from said plate and coupled to said tubular stem so as to define said chamber, a plurality of radial holes radially formed in said plate and opened onto the outside of said punch, a bush hermetically inserted in said tang and connected a lower end of said slender tube to said radial holes, a recess formed in said body, a cylinder accommodated in said recess coaxially to said slender tube and provided with respective holes communicating with said compressed air supply, said upper end of said slender tube being hermetically inserted in said cylinder and connected to said compressed air supply through said respective holes.~~

15. (New) The device according to claim 13, further comprising elastic means which are interposed between said cylindrical element and a structure of said carousel and are suitable to return said tubular stem into a position in which said forming punch rests against a shoulder of said jacket.